

MEMORIALS.

[No. 1.]—Memorial to Congress for an appropriation to construct a Military Road from Fort Snelling to the mouth of Sioux river on the Missouri.

October 20, 1849.

To the honorable, the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States: The memorial of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Minnesota, respectfully represents, That up to this period, no method of communication has been established between the Missouri and Mississippi rivers above the line of the State of Iowa; no road has been constructed, and consequently this vast region remains almost inaccessible to the troops of the United States, as well as to private individuals. In the event of hostilities with the wild and powerful tribes within the limits of Minnesota and on the borders of Iowa, it would be difficult for a military force to penetrate into the country. Although mostly a prairie region, it is thickly interspersed with lakes, dense thickets and bodies of timber, and is irrigated by many streams.

Preamble, etc.

Your memorialists believe it to be highly necessary that your honorable body should appropriate a sufficient sum for making a military road from Fort Snelling on the Mississippi, to the mouth of Sioux river, a tributary of the Missouri river, both as regards the safety of the exposed frontiers and the advantage of the government itself, for looking forward to a speedy extinction of the Indian title, a large and magnificent tract of country will be thereby opened to the enterprising immigrants, unsurpassed in beauty and fertility, and fully capable of sustaining a dense population.

Your memorialists would further state, that the practicability of making the road has been already ascertained by a reconnoissance made several years since by a party of dragoons, under Captain Boone, of the United States Army, by whom the route from Fort Leavenworth, on the Missouri, was marked out, and they are convinced that it can be constructed for a comparatively small sum.

Your memorialists would respectfully urge upon your honorable body, the appropriation, at the next session, of a sufficient sum for that purpose.

Prayer, etc.

APPROVED, the twentieth day of October, one thousand eight hundred and forty-nine.

[No. 2.]—Memorial to Congress relative to the purchase of the Sioux Indian lands west of the Mississippi River.

October 20, 1849.

To the honorable, the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled: Your memorialists, the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Minnesota, respectfully rep-

Preamble, etc.

resent: That the settlement of this Territory would be much facilitated by the purchase of, and extinguishment of the Indian title to the Sioux country west of the Mississippi river, from the Iowa line northward, along the west bank of the Mississippi to the Watab river, which is the south boundary of the Winnebago country; thence westerly along the south boundary of the Winnebago country, to the lake at the head of Long Prairie river; thence by a line drawn due south to the Iowa line; thence along said Iowa line to the place of beginning.

Your memorialists would further represent, that this extensive, rich and salubrious region would open new inducements for the enterprize of our countrymen: that it is not only rich in soil, but as your memorialists verily believe, in minerals: that it is sufficiently timbered and watered for agricultural purposes: and your memorialists feel a conviction that this country once thrown open to settlement, would be peopled with a rapidity exceeding any thing in the history of Western colonization: and your memorialists believe that the Treasury of the General Government would very soon be repaid for all the expense and outlay in the purchase and surveys of the country:

Prayer, etc.

Your memorialists would therefore respectfully urge upon your honorable body, the expediency of an appropriation for that object.

APPROVED, the twentieth day of October, one thousand eight hundred and forty-nine.

November 1, 1849.

[No. 3.]—Memorial to Congress for a mail route from St. Paul to Point Douglass.

Preamble, etc.

To the honorable, the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress: The memorial of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Minnesota, respectfully represents, That at present there is no communication by mail, between St. Paul and Point Douglass, a distance of twenty-five miles, except by the Mississippi river, and the consequence is, that the rapidly increasing settlements along the line of land travel between the points above named, are deprived of any communication by mail with the seat of government and the settlements of the Upper Mississippi, and your memorialists regard this state of things as deeply injurious to the interests, if not unjust to the settlements above named, which is more sensibly felt during the session of the Legislature, when the means of transmitting public documents and a speedy communication between the representative and his constituents becomes a matter of primal importance.

Your memorialists would further represent that the line of travel above named, is through one of the most beautiful agricultural regions in our Territory, and is now fast filling up with an intelligent and industrious population, and the want of suitable mail facilities is the only obstacle to its speedy settlement, thereby replenishing the national coffers by the sale of the public lands.

Prayer, etc.

Your memorialists would therefore urge upon your honorable bodies the propriety of establishing a mail route from St. Paul by the way of Cottage Grove, to Point Douglass, and that a post office be established at Cottage Grove, and that a mail be carried weekly on horse-back, on said route.

APPROVED, the first day of November, one thousand eight hundred and forty-nine.